



**RECRUIT**  
**COMPOUND**



**⚠ A CROSSBOW CAN BE DANGEROUS AND POTENTIALLY FATAL WHEN MISHANDLED. ⚠**

*Safe use of your Barnett® crossbow is your personal responsibility and the failure to follow all of the safety rules and instructions in the owner's manual may result in severe personal injury or death to you or others.*



**KEEP FINGERS AND THUMBS CLEAR OF THE CROSSBOW RAIL AND BOW STRING.**

*Never place any objects or limbs in the way of the string to avoid serious personal injury, including thumb or finger amputation, and equipment damage. Only hold your crossbow as pictured in this owner's manual.*

**NEVER DRY FIRE YOUR CROSSBOW.**

*Doing so will void your warranty, and could result in serious injury to you to others, as well as damage the crossbow. Dry firing means firing the crossbow without a bolt/arrow loaded into the crossbow receiver. Should a dry fire occur, your crossbow must be completely inspected for damage to its components before further use.*

**IT IS PURCHASER'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF OTHERS, IF FOR ANY REASON THE BOW IS LENT OR SOLD TO ANOTHER, ALL INSTRUCTIONS FOR SAFETY SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO THE USER!**



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**Congratulations, you are the proud owner of the finest production crossbow in the world!**

Please follow all safety, assembly and troubleshooting instructions contained in this manual. It is extremely important to read and follow the instructions before attempting to use your crossbow. Serious injuries to yourself or others, damage to your crossbow or poor performance from your crossbow could result from failure to thoroughly read and understand these instructions. If any part of this manual is unclear to you contact the service department at (727) 234-4999. After assembly of your crossbow, please keep manual for future reference.

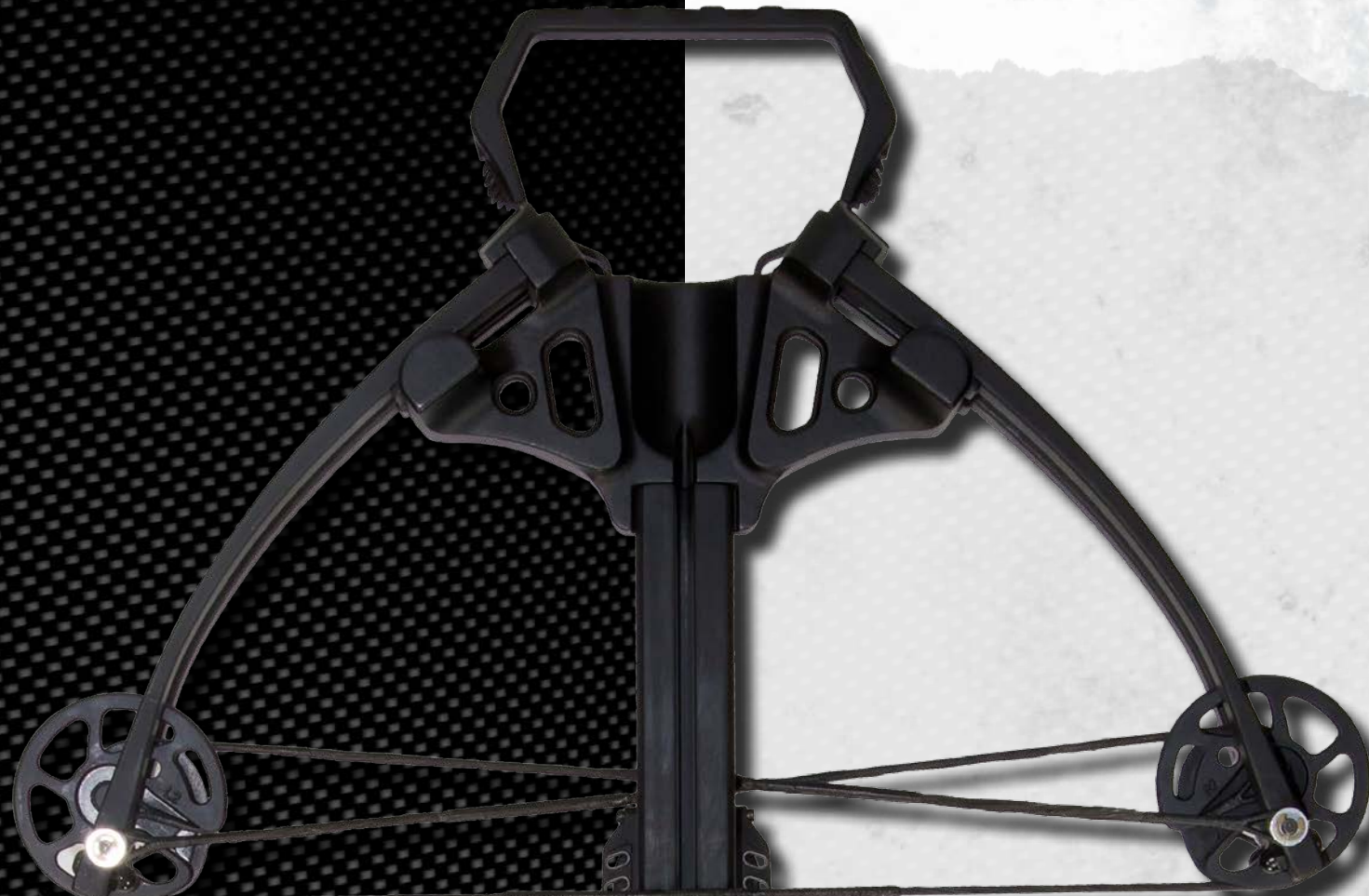
The Recruit Compound Crossbow from Barnett requires 20" arrows fitted with field points, or 100 grain broadheads.

As with any high performance equipment, meticulous care and a regular maintenance schedule must be maintained.



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# SPECIFICATIONS

Feet per Second	300
Power Stroke	12.5"
Draw Weight	130 lbs
Physical Weight	6.5 lbs
Width	18."
Length	34.25"
String Length	32"
Cable Length	17.125"
Number of Strands	28
String Stock Number	16197
Cables Stock Number	16198

# PARTS LIST

Before assembling your crossbow, take a moment to organize these parts and ensure you have everything you need.

If you are missing any of the below parts, contact the Barnett Sales Department at (727) 234-4999.

Hex Key 3/16	1	Foot Stirrup Parts Pack	
Hex Key 5/32	1	Hex Key 5/64	1
Lubewax	1	Hex Key 1/8	1
Nose Bolt	1	6/32 x 3/8" Screws	4
Lock Washer	1	Foot Stirrup Dampeners	2
Rope Cocking Device	1		



# SAFETY GUIDELINES

The **Recruit Compound** is equipped with an automatic anti dry-fire safety, which engages every time the crossbow is cocked. The safety must be released before each shot. This, as with any other mechanical device, does not guarantee total safety, as no safety device is a substitute for common sense and safe handling. The crossbow trigger is only to be pulled when the safety is in "fire" (off) position and NEVER when it is in the "safe" (on) position or anywhere between "safe" and "fire." Do not attempt to alter or modify the safety or the trigger mechanism.

**EXTREME CAUTION SHOULD BE USED AT ALL TIMES WHEN HANDLING A CROSSBOW. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE RULES COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.**

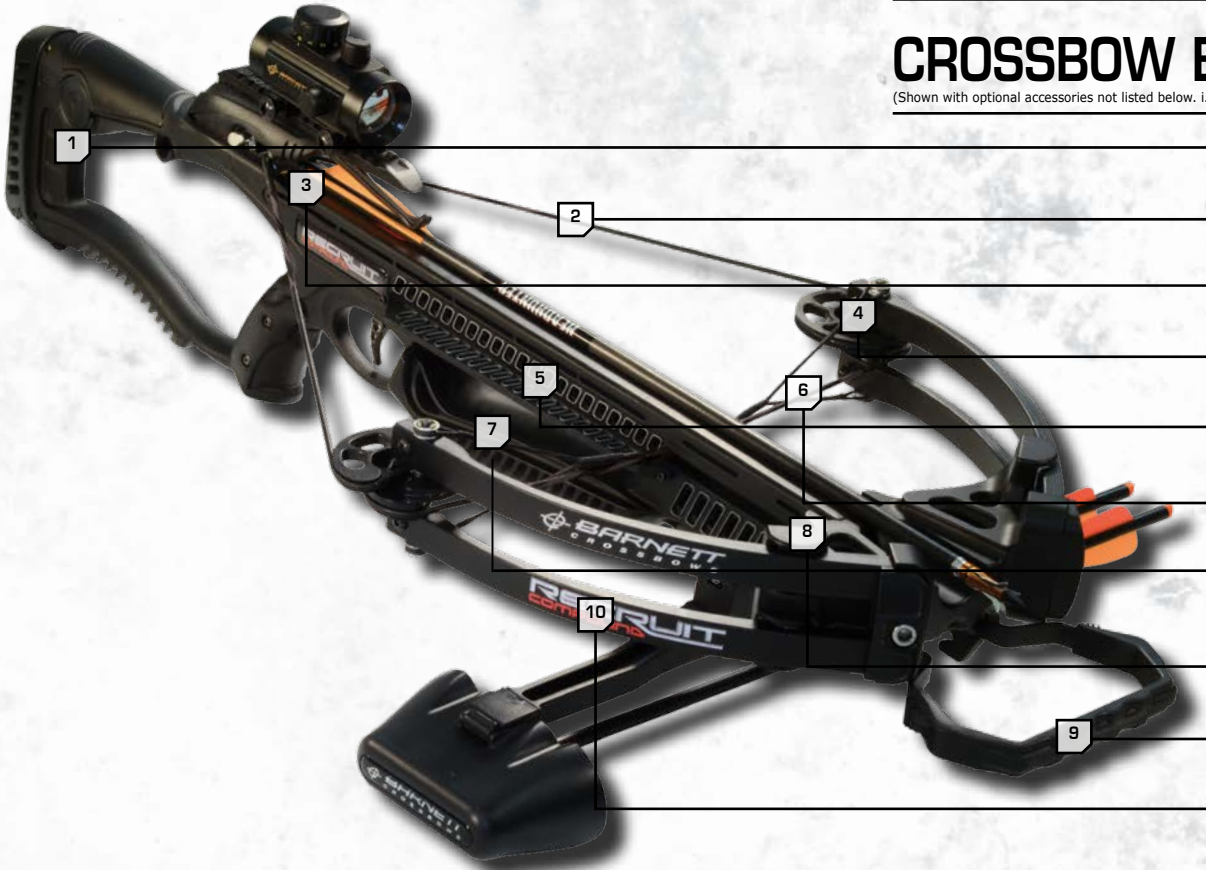
The following rules should be followed at all times:

- >> Always inspect the crossbow and arrows before firing. Bent or damaged arrows/nocks are not safe to fire and should be discarded or repaired.
- >> Always keep your fingers below the flight track and out of the path of the string and cables when firing the crossbow. The velocity of the string striking your fingers as the string travels forward could cause severe personal injury.
- >> Never dry-fire the crossbow (shoot without an arrow). Dry firing will void the warranty and can result in damage to the string, cables, and limbs, possibly causing personal injury.

- >> Never fire the crossbow until you are sure of your target.
- >> Always use an adequate target and backstop when target shooting.
- >> Always use suitable crossbow arrows, such as Barnett 20" carbon arrows with half moon nocks. Arrows of improper stiffness or mass weight may damage the string, cables, and limbs, voiding the warranty and possibly causing personal injury. Too light of an arrow can cause a dry-fire/misfire.

# CROSSBOW BREAKDOWN

(Shown with optional accessories not listed below. i.e. scope, quiver and arrows.)



- 1 Crank Cover Plate
- 2 String
- 3 Arrow Retainer Spring
- 4 Cams
- 5 Finger Reminders
- 6 Cables
- 7 Pass-Through Foregrip
- 8 Riser
- 9 AVI Foot Stirrup
- 10 Limbs



# ASSEMBLY GUIDE

## >> ATTACHING OPTIONAL QUIVER

**Important:** Quiver Bracket must be installed prior to attaching the bow assembly. (In most cases this will be preinstalled at the factory).

- >> Turn bow upside down. Place the center post on the quiver into the center hole of the bracket, turn the quiver so that the top and bottom posts will rotate into the bracket slots accordingly. **See Fig. A & B**



FIGURE A

FIGURE B

## >> ATTACHING RISER ASSEMBLY TO STOCK

- >> Place the cables under front edge of flight track -- this should cause the string to rest on top of the flight track. Push the bow assembly until it seats securely over the nose plug. **See Fig. C**



FIGURE C

- >> Turn bow over and engage prod by seating the bow assembly onto the stock.

- >> Place lock washer on bolt, then insert bolt through bushing.

- >> Insert bolt through bow assembly into stock and tighten with supplied hex key until the lock washer has compressed **(DO NOT OVERTIGHTEN)**.



# ASSEMBLY GUIDE

## >> ATTACHING RISER ASSEMBLY TO STOCK

- >> Turn the bow assembly over.
- >> Place the foot stirrup dampeners into slots. **See Fig. D**
- >> Place the mouth of the foot stirrup over the dampeners making sure the holes are properly aligned. **See Fig. E**
- >> Secure by using the provided 8-32 x 3/8" screws. **See Fig. F**



FIGURE D



FIGURE E



FIGURE F



## >> INSTALLING AN OPTIONAL SCOPE OR RED DOT SIGHT

- >> Position your scope by moving it forward or backward until the proper eye relief is found. This is typically three to four inches from your eye to the eyepiece when you are holding the crossbow in a shooting position.

- >> Tighten the scope mounting side plates with caution.

**Important:** Be sure to tighten windage/elevation caps and scope mount rings before shooting crossbow.



# CROSSBOW OPERATION

## >> COCKING YOUR CROSSBOW

There are two different methods to cock this crossbow. By optional rope cocking device (RCD) (**PREFERRED METHOD**) or crank cocking device (CCD). Please refer to the individual instructions included with the optional accessories for further instructions.

**IMPORTANT:** Before cocking your crossbow, mark the serving on each side of the flight track at rest with a black marker. This will assist in consistency when cocking your bow. Unevenly cocked crossbows will have erratic arrow flight.

**Prior to cocking your crossbow, be sure to apply Barnett lubewax to your string, cables and flight track.**

**NOTE:** Proper footwear must be worn when operating your crossbow. Bare feet, flip flops, house shoes, socks/stockings or open-toed shoes are not recommended.

>> Open the Rope Cocking Device. Spread the two roller hooks, one to each side of the rope (Important you must loop the center of the rope securely in the groove of the stock, below the scope mount. For maximum accuracy, place both hooks against the side of the flight track. Make sure the cocking device is secure on both the stock and the string. Place the foot stirrup on the ground and place one foot securely in the stirrup (using the ball of your foot to offset

the draw weight of the crossbow) and the stock resting against your thigh, grabbing the rope handles and firmly pull upward. Using the rope cocking device, pull the crossbow string into the trigger mechanism until an audible "click" is heard and the safety engages. The crossbow is now cocked and the rope cocking device aid can be removed. See additional instructions located in the Rope Cocking Device Package.



## >> ARROW SELECTION AND PROPER FLIGHT

Due to the unique design of your Barnett crossbow, it is imperative that only specified arrows are used. These arrows are correctly spined and weighted to absorb the high energy generated by the compound design. Lighter arrows simulate a "dryfire" condition and will result in damage to the crossbow **VOIDING** the warranty. Barnett's 20" carbon arrows are correctly "spined". The minimum weight for a Recruit Compound bow is 400 grains, which includes a 100 grain field point. We recommend the use of Barnett arrows manufactured specifically for your Barnett crossbow.

## DRY FIRING WILL VOID THE WARRANTY.

The crossbow industry does not have set standards for calculating advertised speeds. Manufacturers use various arrow weights to depict their marketed speeds, anywhere from a 380 grain arrow to a 400 grain arrow. There are a lot of different factors to consider when choosing an arrow: speed, kinetic energy, down

range penetration, accuracy and potential wear that the arrow weight puts on the bow.

With over 50 years of experience, Barnett has found that the best performing arrows in all of those categories combined vary from bow to bow. Included with your bow purchase is the arrow that we feel is weighted for the best performance for your hunting experience. The arrow speeds in the chart at right are provided to give you the power of your new Barnett bow in comparison to the other bows on the market.

>> Use Barnett 20" carbon arrows with straight fletches and a half moon nock.

>> Mechanical broadheads that simulate the flight of a field point may be used where legal.

>> The recommended fixed blade broadheads can be any three blade low profile broadhead with a cutting diameter no larger than 1-3/16".

## >> IMPORTANT DISCLAIMER

Due to the power of the Recruit Compound and the inconsistent properties of wooden shafts (which have a tendency to warp, vary in spine stiffness, density, and moisture absorption - all of which could result in inaccuracy), Barnett Outdoors does not recommend their use under any circumstance. Possible injury could result from shaft breakage, etc.

**We accept no responsibility or liability arising from the use of wooded shaft arrows.**

380 grain arrow	306 fps
400 grain arrow	300 fps
425 grain arrow	292 fps



## >> LOADING YOUR CROSSBOW

**IMPORTANT:** Barnett recommends only using arrows with half moon nocks. See Fig. G

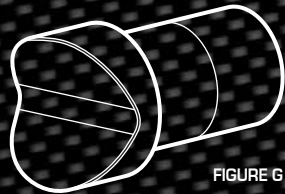


FIGURE G

>> When loading arrows onto the flight rail, be sure that the odd colored fletch is placed in the flight groove and that the concave portion of the nock is parallel to the string.

>> Slide the arrow under the arrow retainer spring and fully into the trigger mechanism.

**Note:** The arrow retainer spring should only exert enough pressure to hold the arrow in place without lifting the arrow from its position on the flight surface.



## >> ARROW RETAINER SPRING

When loaded, the arrow should lie flat in the flight groove. The arrow retainer spring should not be twisted to the side and should exert only enough pressure to hold the arrow in place. When the crossbow is pointed at the ground, the arrow should remain in place and not slide forward. It should not lift the front of the arrow off the flight groove, and the arrow should be parallel with the flight groove.

>> To adjust the composite style retainer spring turn the set screw clockwise to tighten pressure on the arrow and counterclockwise to loosen pressure on the arrow. See Fig. H



FIGURE H

**NOTE:** The arrow retainer spring's tension is set for Barnett arrow height. Therefore, after-market arrows may require adjustments.

**If you have any questions, please give our customer service department a call, prior to adjusting.**





The following rules should be followed at all times.

**Extreme caution should be used at all times when handling a crossbow. Failure to follow these rules could result in serious injury or death.**



CORRECT



INCORRECT



## >> FIRING YOUR CROSSBOW

To fire the arrow from your crossbow:

- >> Point the crossbow in a safe direction.
- >> Make sure the arrow retainer spring has maintained the arrows fully loaded position into the trigger mechanism
- >> Push the safety forward to the off position.

**NOTE: The Anti Dry Fire trigger mechanism will not fire without an arrow fully loaded in the trigger mechanism.**

- >> The crossbow will now fire when the trigger is pulled. The safety **MUST** be disengaged in this manner prior to every shot.

**BE SURE TO KEEP YOUR FINGERS BELOW THE STOCK FORE END (FLIGHT TRACK) WHILE SHOOTING. Note photos at left. This will prevent your hands from being struck by the string as it travels forward. The velocity of the string hitting your fingers will cause severe injury.**

## >> UNLOADING YOUR CROSSBOW

The safest way to un-cock your crossbow is to fire an arrow into a target or into the ground away from debris, loose rocks or other people. **Note:** Take caution not to target any solid object as the arrow may ricochet, potentially causing harm to you or others.



# CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Prior to every shooting session, it is recommended to do a complete check of cables, cams, screws and arrows be made.

This owner's kit contains a tube of Barnett lubewax that should be applied to the enter serving and flight track every 5-10 shots.



## >> CARE OF STRING

To extend the life of your cables it is important to apply Barnett lubewax to all of the non-served area of the cables. Apply Barnett lubewax every 30 - 50 shots to the non-served area of the string, or when white fuzz begins to appear. If the crossbow has been exposed to excessive moisture you may need to apply the lubewax more often.

>> Always store your crossbow in a safe, dry place.

>> Do not expose your crossbow to extreme heat, such as closed, hot vehicles or near heat sources.

>> Keep the flight track and the string serving waxed to reduce friction.

>> Inspect string and cables for signs of wear. An authorized service center or the factory should replace cables showing wear immediately.

>> We do not recommend that the bow be left in the cocked position for periods longer than four hours.

With reasonable care of your equipment and diligent practice, your crossbow will remain an accurate, highly efficient hunting weapon.



# TROUBLESHOOTING

The greatest variable in accuracy are the arrows, as they differ greatly and have totally different flight characteristics. Generally speaking, target arrows are more accurate than hunting arrows, when practicing with field points. Fixed - blade broadheads used in hunting, due to their large surface area, have a tendency to "plane". To help overcome this we suggest practicing well in advance of hunting season with the type of arrows that will be used to achieve consistent groupings. Consider the following when selecting arrows:

>> Heavier arrows hold more energy for humane harvesting at reasonable ranges (15-35 yards).

>> Lighter arrows are much faster but hold less energy.

**Never use less than 400 grain arrows (this includes a 100 grain fieldpoint/broadhead).**

## >> MY STRING IS JUMPING THE ARROW.

It might be some of the early signs of your string being damaged or broken. We recommend for you to change your string. If the string has been changed please make sure you've used Barnett String with correct strength rating.

## >> MY ARROW ISN'T FLYING STRAIGHT.

Check that your arrow is straight and fletches (vanes) are not damaged. Make sure the arrow lies true (flat) on the flight groove, the fletching is down in the flight groove and the arrow retainer string isn't too tight or twisted. Check that your arrow slides smoothly and evenly into the trigger mechanism.

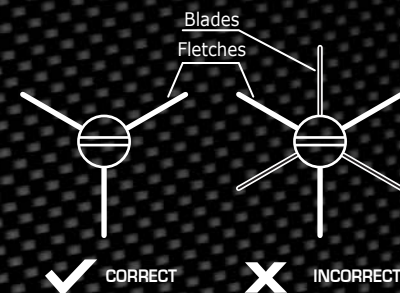
## >> MY STRING IS NOT CATCHING THE ARROW.

Please check that the nocks on the arrows are not damaged. Do not continue trying to load damaged arrow into the crossbow as this can cause dry fire. Dry fire can damage your crossbow.

## >> MY BROADHEAD ARROW ISN'T SITTING TRUE IN THE FLIGHT GROOVE.

When using broadheads, line up the blades with the fletches on the arrow using the O-ring. **See Fig. I**

FIGURE I



## >> THE STRING APPEARS TO LATCH UNEVENLY CAUSING THE ARROW TO SHOOT OFF SIDE.

Check that when you are cocking your crossbow, you are pulling equally on each side of the string. Mark the new strings on each side of the flight track as stated in the Cocking Your Crossbow instructions. After cocking your crossbow, make sure the marks are shown evenly on each side of the trigger mechanism. When cocking your crossbow, make a conscious effort to hold the string on the flight track so as not to lift over the arrow retainer spring.

## >> MY STRING IS FRAYING.

Make sure you always use Barnett lubewax on the center string and flight track every 5-10 shots and on the cables when needed. Keep the trigger mechanism and flight track free of obstruction. Check for any metal burs on the flight track and arrow end caps.

## >> MY CROSSBOW HAS WEAK LIMBS AND IS LOSING POWER.

Dry fire of the crossbow can cause the limbs to crack. Check your crossbow for any possible damage and/or cracks. If there is no visible

damage, check that you are using Barnett string and it is the correct length as short stirrings will damage your crossbow.

Check that the cams are properly lubricated with light weight machine oil. Reduce friction by keeping the flight track and the string serving waxed.

We do not recommend that the bow is left in the cocked position for periods longer than four hours.

With reasonable care of your equipment and diligent practice, your crossbow will remain an accurate, highly efficient hunting weapon.



# AMERICAN CROSSBOW FEDERATION

>> MEMBER’S APPLICATION

Annual Benefits Include, but are not limited to:

>> **Quarterly Issues of the Horizontal Bowhunter Magazine.** As a member of the American Crossbow Federation, you will receive quarterly issues of the *Horizontal Bowhunter Magazine*. This unique and timely magazine keeps our membership up to date on the latest in- novations and developments in the crossbow industry. More importantly, it gives our members an opportunity to share their personal experiences, hunting stories, photos and letters to the editor. It is important to realize and remember that the ACF and the HBM are dedicated to the promotion and preservation of ALL forms of hunting with ALL weapons, especially the crossbow.

>> **Free Classified Ads in the HBM and Support for Your State Crossbow Organization.** Your membership includes free classified ads in the HBM. If you have crossbow-related merchandise you would like to buy, sell, trade or hunts to swap, the Classified Ads are free for ACF members. Plus \$5 of your ACF membership will be donated back to your affiliated State organization in your name. If there is no affiliated state organization, the \$5 will be used to help bring the crossbow to states that do not have a crossbow season and are struggling to get one.

>> **Membership Card and Member’s ACF Bumper Sticker.** Each member of the American Crossbow Federation will receive a membership package containing your first HBM, a membership

card and an ACF Bumper Sticker to proudly display on their vehicle.

>> **Trophy Entries into the American Crossbow Federation Big Game Register.** As a member of the ACF, you are entitled to enter your trophy animals taken with horizontal and vertical bows in the official big game record book created for ALL archery hunters. The *ACF Big Game Crossbow Register* is a history of animals taken by ACF members with ANY archery equipment, including the crossbow from around the world. Qualified animals that have been taken all the way back to 1975 may be entered into the register. This compilation of crossbow hunting statistics covers ALL big game species from ALL continents with ALL archery equipment.

Rates:

**U.S. Membership**  
\$30.00-1 yr./\$58.00-2 yr.

**Lifetime Membership U.S.**  
\$700.00

**Lifetime Over 65 Membership U.S.**  
\$450.00

**Corporate Membership**  
\$250.00

**Canadian Membership (U.S Funds)**  
\$35.00-1 yr./\$68.00-2 yr.

**Lifetime Canadian (U.S Funds)**  
\$850.00

**Overseas Membership (U.S Funds)**  
\$40.00-1 yr./78.00-2yr.

**Overseas Lifetime (U.S. Funds)**  
\$1000.00

## AMERICAN CROSSBOW FEDERATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Remove the form below and return to receive your membership benefits

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Mail your membership application to:

American Crossbow Federation POB 251  
20 NE 9th Ave Glenwood, MN 56334

Or call our main desk at 320-634-3660 to use a credit card

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE







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NOTES

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## WARRANTY INFORMATION

The stock, trigger mechanism and limbs are covered under a five year limited warranty. Our liability extends to parts and labor.

**Not covered are:** strings, cables, arrows, transportation of product to our Service Center; damage caused by abuse, modification or failure to perform normal maintenance; or any other expense, consequential damages, coincidental damages, or incidental expenses including damage to property or person. There are no other warranties expressed or implied. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights that vary from state to state.

**TO OBTAIN SERVICE:** You must call our service department at (727) 234-4999 for a Return Authorization number (RA#) prior to sending the unit. Write the RA# on the outside of the package along with the words "Service Return". Attach a note to the product containing your name, address, telephone number and a description of the problem. Carefully package and return the product, transportation charges pre-paid, to the factory.

Collect shipments will not be accepted. Shipments without an RA number issued and listed on the outside of the shipping box will not be accepted.

**Warranty Registration card must be mailed within 10 days of purchase to validate the warranty.**

The warranties and guarantees contained herein are non-transferable and non-assignable. All warranties and guarantees contained herein shall be null and void in the event the original purchaser sells, assigns, or conveys the product.

How to reach us:  
Barnett Outdoors, L.L.C.  
955 Live Oak St.  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689

Phone: 727-234-4999  
Fax: 1-727-942-6100  
Email: [service@barnettcrossbows.com](mailto:service@barnettcrossbows.com)

Name:

Age:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Place of Purchase:

Date of Purchase:

Price Paid:

Serial Number:

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